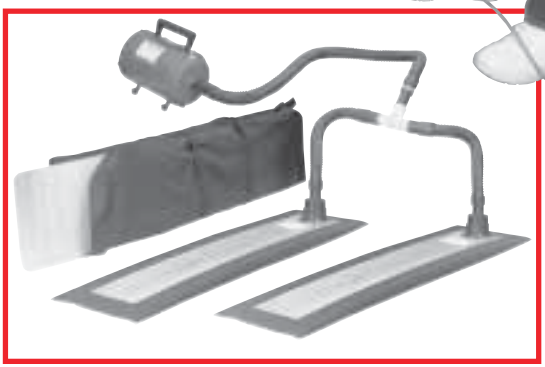
INSTRUCTION MANUAL FOR

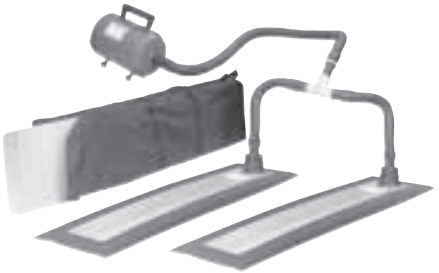


CRAIN

No. 280 H.D. Air Lifter

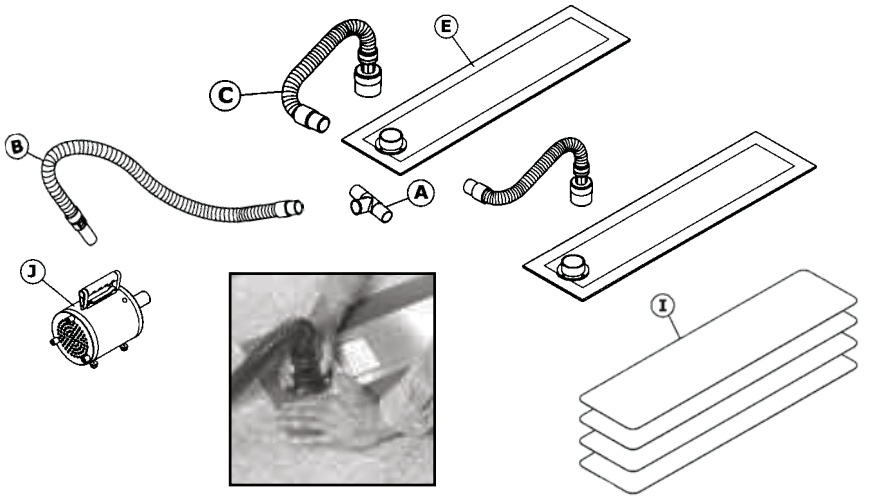
SAFETY FIRST:

- The Air Lifter is designed for moving furniture and appliances ONLY!
- For use on flat, level floors ONLY! Do not use on inclines, stairs or ramps.
- Do not ride or stand on the lifter plates.
- Keep all body parts out from underneath heavy loads at all times.
- Avoid electric shock:
  - DO NOT USE in wet or damp environments.
  - The Air Lifter comes with a three prong grounded plug. Do not remove the ground from the plug. Use the Air Lifter with appropriate 3 prong power cords and receptacles.



CONTENTS:

- The Air Lifter comes with:
  - 2 ea. Air Plates - "E"
  - 1 ea. 2 HP Motor - "J"
  - 2 ea. Air Plate to T-Connector hose - "C"
  - 1 ea. T-Connector - "A"
  - 1 ea. T-Connector to motor hose - "B"
  - 4 ea. Plastic carpet adaptor glides - "I"
  - 2 ea. Nylon carrying bags - not shown



CAUTION: When attaching or disconnecting hoses, grab the solid plastic fitting, not the hose itself. Pulling on the hose will cause damage. NEVER pull the Air Lifter by the hoses!

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Before moving any appliance or furniture ALWAYS BEWARE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Remove any items that may be on top of the load.
- All electrical, gas or water connections to the appliance must be shut off and removed from appliances.
- Check the object to be moved for any delicate attachments that may contact the air plates as a result of the lifting action. For appliances, check for the delicate grills or ornamentation. These must be removed prior to lifting.
- When you start the blower, the load will rise. It is CRITICAL to check for adequate clearance before starting the motor. Check that there is a minimum of three inches clearance between the top of the load and any cabinetry or other items which may be above the load.

  If the clearance is less than 3", follow the POWER ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURE listed on page 3.

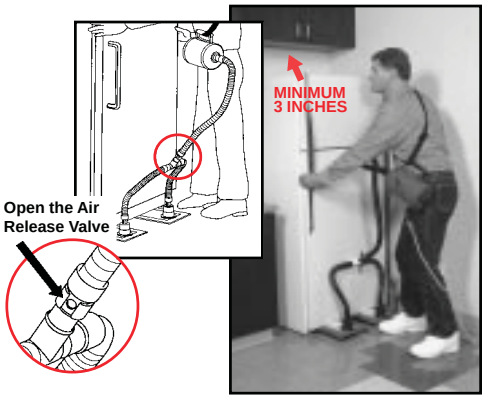


Figure 1

POSITIONING THE AIR LIFTER

- Slide the air plates under the load, and check the clearance between the top of the plate and the bottom of the load. If the clearance is less than 3", the load may be lifted without any extra blocking to make up the gap. (See figure 2.)

  When properly positioned, the air plates should be as far apart as possible, but no closer than 1/4" to any supporting members, and should project out the backside of the load.

  If the clearance is greater than 3", you will need to place wooden blocks on top of the air plates before sliding them under the load. (See figure 3.)

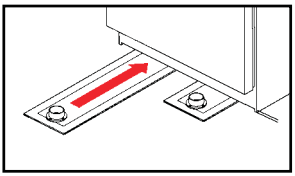


Figure 2

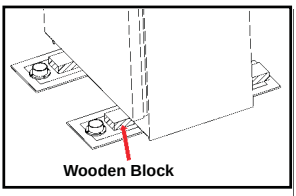
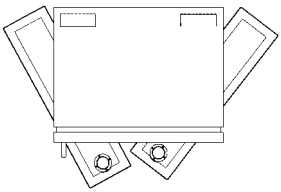


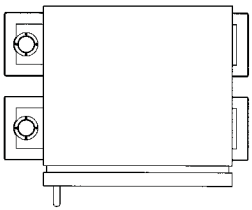
Figure 3

- If an air plate happens to get stuck as you slide it under, try rearranging the Air Plates in a "V" shape under your load, or entering them from the opposite side.

"V" Entry Approach



Side Entry Approach



- If no other option for sliding the air plates under the load is available, tilt the load and place blocks underneath the front corners. (See figure 4.)

- After the load is moved, it is necessary to replace the blocks under the corners, or else you will not be able to remove the air plates when the blower is turned off.

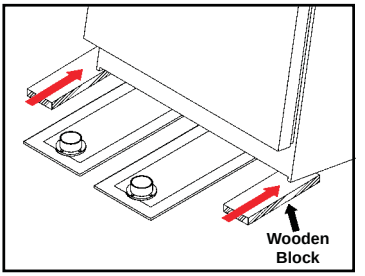


Figure 4

MOVING THE LOAD

- Insert the hose fittings into the air plate inlets and assemble the other hoses to the motor. Make sure all hose fittings are snug.

- If the clearance between the top of the load and any cabinetry or other items above is less than 3", follow the POWER ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURE below. Otherwise, proceed to the next step.

- Strap the motor over your shoulder. Make sure the on/off switch on the motor is readily accesible.

- Place one hand on the appliance and turn the blower on. The air plates will inflate quickly and forcefully. BE PREPARED!

- Move the appliance slowly and steadily to the desired position. DO NOT ROCK or push out of balance. Maintain the load in a level, controlled fashion AT ALL TIMES. (See figures 5 & 6.)

Figure 5

Figure 6

POWER ADJUSTMENT PROCEDURE

- This is best done with a helper. Keep an eye on available clearance at all times.

- Open the air release valve on the hose that runs from the motor to the T-Connector. This reduces the lifting action of the blower. (See figure 7.)

  Switch the blower on and off in rapid succession. The air plates will partially inflate, and the load can be moved out slowly.

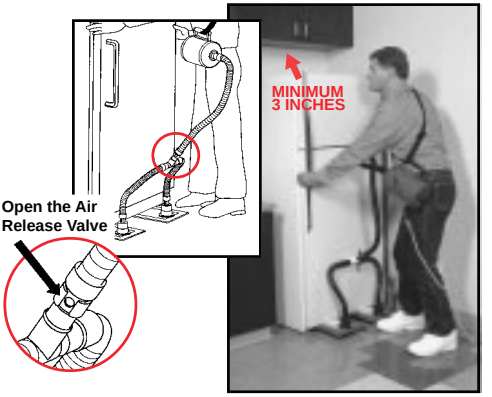


Figure 7

SPECIAL SITUATIONS - LEVELLING THE LOAD

- If the floating appliance is lower in the rear than the front, stepping on the front of the inflated air plates near the hose connections will force more air to the back. It may also be necessary to step on the plates in order to position the load as closely as possible to the back wall. (See figure 8.)

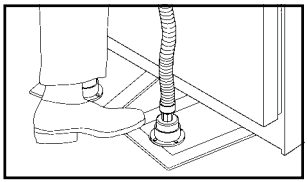


Figure 8

MOVING APPLIANCES OVER CARPET

- When moving a load over carpeted floor or any porous surface, use the plastic carpet adapters. The adapters should also be used when the floor is rough or dirty. This protects the air plates from damage.

- If you are STARTING on a floor that requires carpet adapters, slide an adapter underneath each air plate before positioning it underneath the load.

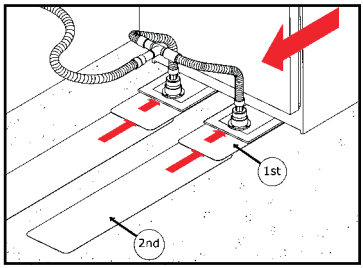


Figure 9

Next, take the two extra carpet adapters tuck them 3-4 inches under the first pair, in the direction you want to move.

Turn on the blower and start moving the load. Once you have moved the load fully over the second pair of carpet adapters, stop and remove the first pair. This process may be repeated until you have reached the desired location. (See figure 9.)

MOVING SUB-ZERO® APPLIANCES

- Sub-Zero® Refrigerators and many other applicances may not have adequate frame supports built in to the base. In such cases, certain areas at the front and the rear edges of the cabinet itself may provide the sturdiest support for lifting.

- Remove all drip pans, grills and base covers. Determine the best points for lifting. Note especially any delicate hoses or electrical wiring. Any such hoses or wiring must be kept out from under the lifting pressure of the plates.

- Once the best points for lifting have been determined, create a custom set of wooden blocks that will support the appliance as necessary. These are to be placed on top of the air plate, and then the air plate can be slid under the appliance. (See figure 10.)

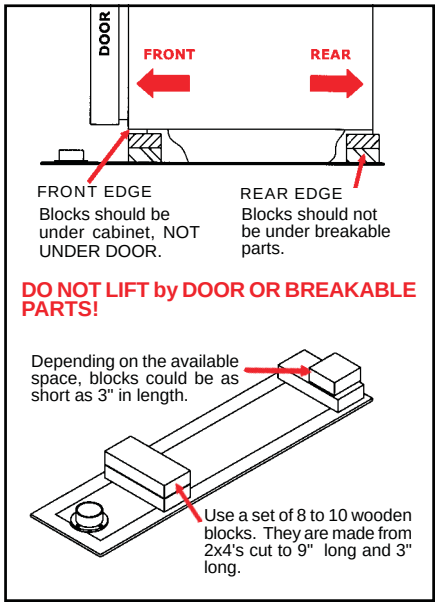

DOOR
FRONT
REAR
FRONT EDGE
Blocks should be under cabinet, NOT UNDER DOOR.
REAR EDGE
Blocks should not be under breakable parts.
DO NOT LIFT by DOOR OR BREAKABLE PARTS!
Depending on the available space, blocks could be as short as 3" in length.
Use a set of 8 to 10 wooden blocks. They are made from 2x4's cut to 9" long and 3" long.

Figure 10

- In the case of a Sub-Zero® refrigerator, for the front of the cabinet, the best surface for lifting is the flat area of the cabinet just behind the door. Be careful however to prevent the wooden blocks from contacting the door, or any other breakable parts, such as the base cover or drip pan supports, as this can cause major damage to the appliance. (See figure 11.)

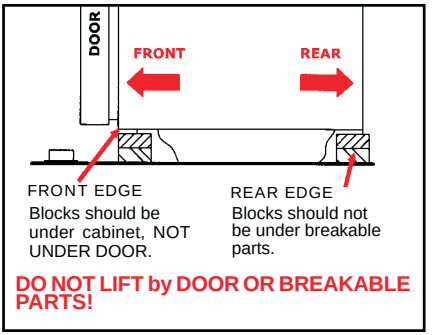


Figure 11

- At the rear edge, the best surface for lifting is at the back of the cabinet. Do not situate any blocks underneath the back side cover or drip pan supports; or any exposed hoses or wiring. (See figure 11.)

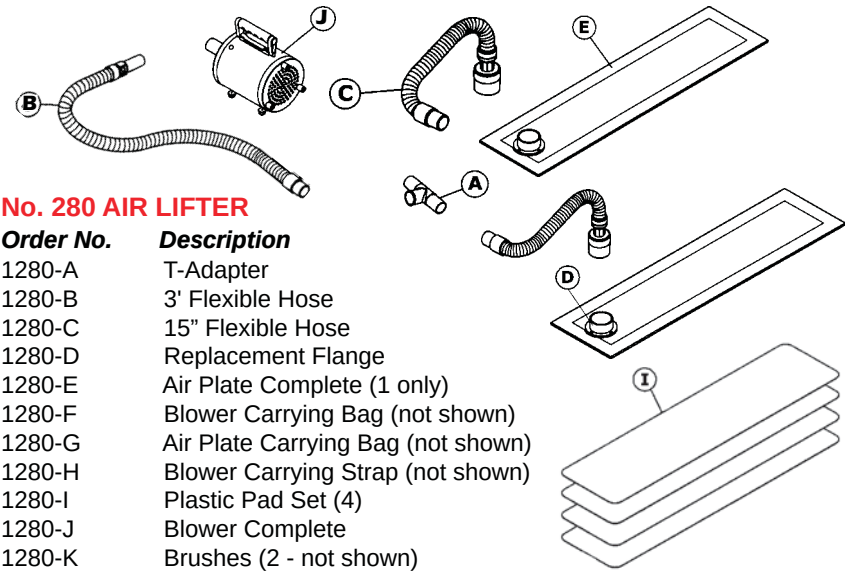
- At the rear edge, the available space may be limited. In this case, you may need to use a narrower block (no narrower than 3") on top of a wider base block (9").

DANGER: All blocking supports used on top of the air plates must be level (at the same height relative to each other). Otherwise, as the load lifts, it will not be level, and the load may tip over.

DANGER: Sub-Zero® appliances are very heavy. Move appliances slowly and in a controlled manner at all times.

DANGER: Sub-Zero® appliances may be very top-heavy, and may fall over under certain circumstances. Move the appliance slowly, and do not move over ramps or stairs.

REPLACEMENT PARTS AVAILABLE



No. 280 AIR LIFTER

Order No.	*Description*
1280-A	T-Adapter
1280-B	3' Flexible Hose
1280-C	15” Flexible Hose
1280-D	Replacement Flange
1280-E	Air Plate Complete (1 only)
1280-F	Blower Carrying Bag (not shown)
1280-G	Air Plate Carrying Bag (not shown)
1280-H	Blower Carrying Strap (not shown)
1280-I	Plastic Pad Set (4)
1280-J	Blower Complete
1280-K	Brushes (2 - not shown)

CRAIN

GUARANTEE

This 280 H.D. Air Lifter is guaranteed to be free of defects in workmanship or quality of materials for a period of ONE YEAR.

Any parts of tools found defective subject to the guarantee will be replaced at no charge. Credit in full or part cannot be extended by the distributor. New tools will not be given as replacements for those pending a warranty adjustment.

All merchandise returned subject to this warranty must be accompanied with same. All merchandise returned must be F.O.B. Milpitas, California, and must be in complete assembled units. No consideration will be given to unassembled parts. All disputes will be up to the consideration of the CRAIN CUTTER CO., INC. and their decision will be final.

Please fill out and mail this card to validate your CRAIN guarantee.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____

TOOL PURCHASED:
#280 H.D. Air Lifter

PURCHASED FROM: _____

DATE PURCHASED: _____

PLEASE CHECK:

- ❑ INDIVIDUAL FLOORING INSTALLER
- ❑ WORKROOM
- ❑ FLOORING DEALER
- ❑ INSTALLATION CONTRACTOR
- ❑ OTHER _____

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Crain Cutter Co., Inc.
1155 Wrigley Way
Milpitas, CA 95035-5426